WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of generating user-compatible business application data, the method generating a folder for input to an application system and that is to be

5   applied to the application system at a timing that satisfies a requirement of the application system, the folder having data items and a format required by the application system in order for business processing to be executed by the application system, the folder being

10 generated from an input report having data items and a format that reflect activities of a user and being created at a timing that reflects the activities of the user, said input report being independent, in terms of data items, format and input timing, of data items,

15 format and input timing required by said application system, said method comprising the steps of:

entering an input report, which is accompanied by time-related data, together with an identification code thereof to a generating system, said input report

20 including data regarding one or a plurality of items and having a format suitable for expressing results of user activities;

storing the entered input report together with the identification code thereof in a database of said

25 generating system in order to make said input report

available for use in one or a plurality of application

systems; and

generating a folder, which includes data required

by said application system in a format required by said

5   application system, at a given timing prior to start of

business processing in said application system, by

selection or manipulation of the input report that has

been stored in said database and of data contained in

said input report without executing said business

10   processing, and delivering the generated folder to said

application system.

2.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising

the step of generating said input folder by selection

or manipulation of an input report, which has been

15   stored in said database, and of data contained in said

input report in accordance with a folder generating

definition that specifies how said folder is generated

from said input report.

3.   The method according to claim 1, further comprising

20   the steps of:

selecting an input report to be used in generating

said folder from among input reports that have been

stored in said database; and

generating said input folder by selection or

25   manipulation of data contained in the selected input

report in accordance with a folder generating

definition that specifies how said folder is generated

from said input report.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein said

5 report selecting definition includes a report interval

definition that specifies the interval of a report to

be used in generating said folder, and an input report

that falls within an interval to be used in generating

said folder is selected, based upon time-related data

10 accompanying an input report that has been stored in

said database, in accordance with said report interval

definition.

5. The method according to claim 3 or 4, wherein the

identification code of said input report includes a

15 code that identifies the type of input report; and

said report selecting definition includes a

report-type definition that specifies the type of a

report to be used in generating a folder, and an input

report of the type to be used in generating said folder

20 is selected, based upon the identification code of the

input report that has been stored in said database, in

accordance with said report-type definition.

6. The method according to any one of claims 3 to 5,

wherein said report selecting definition includes a

25 report item definition that specifies a data item that

is to be included in a report to be used in generating

said folder, and an input report to be used in

generating said. folder is selected, based upon a data

item included in the input report that has been stored

5   in the database, in accordance with said report item

definition.

7.   The method according to any one of claims 3 to 6,

wherein said report selecting definition includes a

data value definition that specifies a data value that

10   is to be included in a report to be used in generating

said folder, and an input report to be used in

generating said folder is selected, based upon a data

value included in an input report that has been stored

in the database, in accordance with said data value

15   definition.

8.   The method according to any one of claims 1 to 7,

wherein the identification code of said input report

includes a user identification code that identifies a

user who has performed an activity; and

20   said folder is generated on a per-user basis based

upon said user identification code.

9.   A program for generating user-compatible business

application data, comprising computer code for

implementing the steps of:

accepting entry of an input report, which is

accompanied by time-related data, together with input

of an identification code thereof, to a generating

system, said input report including data regarding one

5   or a plurality of items and having a format suitable

for expressing results of user activities;

storing the entered input report together with the

identification code thereof in a database of said

generating system in order to make said input report

10   available for use in one or a plurality of application

systems; and

controlling said generating system so as to

generate a folder, which includes data required by said

application system in a format required by said

15   application system, at a given timing prior to start of

business processing in said application system, by

selection or manipulation of an input report that has

been stored in said database and of data contained in

said input report without executing said business

20   processing, and deliver the generated folder to said

application system.

10. A system for generating user-compatible business

application data, comprising:

input report accepting means for accepting entry

25   of an input report, which is accompanied by time-

related data, together with an identification code
thereof, the input report including data regarding one
or a plurality of items and having a format suitable
for expressing results of user activities;

5   database control means for controlling a database
so as to store the input report, which has been
accepted by said input report accepting means, together
with the identification code thereof in said database
in order to make the input report available for use in

10   one or a plurality of application systems; and

folder generating / delivering means for
generating a folder, which includes data required by
the application system in a format required by the
application system, at a given timing prior to start of

15   business processing in the application system, by
selection or manipulation of an input report that has
been stored in the database and of data contained in
the input report without executing the business
processing, and delivering the generated folder to the

20   application system.

11. A program for generating user-compatible business
application data, comprising:

a definition accepting program for controlling a
computer so as to accept, and store in definition data

25   storage means with regard to a folder to be applied to

an application system, a folder data-item definition

that specifies a data item contained in the folder, a

report selecting definition that specifies an interval

of a report to be used in creating a folder, type of

5   report to be used in creating a folder and a report

data item that is to be included in a report to be used

in creating a folder, and a folder data generating

definition that specifies how data of a data item of a

folder is generated from data relating to a report;

10   a report accepting program for controlling the

computer so as to accept, and store in report storage

means, a report having time data, a report-type code

and data of one or a plurality of report data items;

a report selecting program for controlling the

15   computer so as to select, from among reports stored in

said report storage means, a report, which is in line

with at least any one condition, from among a report in

line with a condition that time data falls within an

interval specified by the report selecting definition,

20   a report in line with a condition that the report

possesses a report-type code of a type specified by the

report selecting definition, and a report in line with

a condition that the report possesses data of a report

data item specified by the report selecting definition;

25   and

a folder data generating program for controlling the computer based upon data relating to the selected report so as to generate data of a data item of a folder, which has been specified by the folder data-

5   item definition, in accordance with the folder data generating definition.

12.   A program for generating user-compatible business application data, said program causing a computer to function as:

10   definition data storage means for storing definition data that includes, with regard to a folder to be applied to an application system, a folder data-item definition that specifies a data item contained in the folder, a report selecting definition that

15   specifies an interval of a report to be used in creating a folder, type of report to be used in creating a folder and a report data item that is to be included in a report to be used in creating a folder, and a folder data generating definition that specifies

20   how data of a data item of a folder is generated from data relating to a report;

report storage means for storing a report having time data, a report-type code and data of one or a plurality of report data items;

report selecting means for selecting, from among

reports stored in said report storage means, a report,

which is in line with at least any one condition, from

among a report in line with a condition that time data

5   falls within an interval specified by the report

selecting definition, a report in line with a condition

that the report possesses a report-type code of a type

specified by the report selecting definition, and a

report in line with a condition that the report

10   possesses data of a report data item specified by the

report selecting definition; and

folder data generating means for generating data

of a data item of a folder, which has been specified by

the folder data-item definition, in accordance with the

15   folder data generating definition based upon data

relating to the report by said report selecting means.

13. The program according to claim 11 or 12, wherein

the report selecting definition includes a data value

to be included in a report to be used in creating a

20   folder; and

a report, which is in line with at least any one

condition, is selected from among a report in line with

a condition that time data falls within an interval

specified by the report selecting definition, a report

25   in line with a condition that the report possesses a

report-type code of a type specified by the report

selecting definition, a report in line with a condition

that the report possesses data of a report data item

specified by the report selecting definition, and a

5   report in line with a condition that the report

possesses a data value specified by the report

selecting definition.

14.   The program according to claim 11 or 12, wherein

there is selected a report having time data that falls

10   within an interval specified by the report selecting

definition, a report-type code of a type specified by

the report selecting definition, and data of a report

data item specified by the report selecting definition.

15.   The program according to claim 13, wherein there

15   is selected a report having time data that falls within

an interval specified by the report selecting

definition, a report-type code of a type specified by

the report selecting definition, data of a report data

item specified by the report selecting definition, and

20   a data value specified by the report selecting

definition.

16.   A definition accepting program for controlling a

computer so as to:

accept input of the following definitions from an

input unit, with regard to a folder to be applied to an

application system:

a folder data-item definition that specifies

5   a data item contained in the folder;

a report selecting definition that specifies

an interval of a report to be used in creating a folder,

type of report to be used in creating a folder and a

report data item that is to be included in a report to

10   be used in creating a folder; and

a folder data generating definition that

specifies how data of a data item of a folder is

generated from data relating to a report; and

store the accepted folder data-item definition,

15   report selecting definition and folder data generating

defining in definition data storage means.

17.   A program for generating user-compatible business

application data, comprising:

a report selecting program for controlling a

20   computer to select, from among reports, which have been

stored in report storage means, having time data,

report-type codes and data of one or a plurality of

report data items, a report, which is in line with at

least any one condition, from among a report in line

25   with a condition that time data falls within an

interval of a report to be used in creating a folder

specified by the report selecting definition, a report

in line with a condition that the report possesses a

report-type code to be used in creating a folder

5 specified by the report selecting definition, and a

report in line with a condition that the report

possesses data of a report data item to be used in

creating a folder specified by the report selecting

definition; and

10 a folder data generating program for controlling

the computer based upon data relating to the selected

report so as to generate data of a data item of a

folder, which has been specified by the folder data-

item definition, in accordance with a folder data

15 generating definition that specifies how the data of

the data item is generated from the data relating to

the report.

18. The program according to claim 11 or 12, wherein

said folder data-item definition specifies a plurality

20 of data items included on one folder; and

said folder data generating definition specifies

how each item of data of the plurality of data items

included in said one folder is generated from data

relating to a report.

19. The program according to claim 11 or 12, wherein said folder data generating definition includes a definition that specifies that data of a data item contained in report is data of a corresponding data item of a folder.

20. The program according to claim 11 or 12, wherein said folder data generating definition includes a definition that specifies that data, which is obtained by applying prescribed processing to data of one or a plurality of data items contained in a report, is data of a data item of a folder.

21. The program according to claim 11 or 12, wherein said folder data generating definition includes a definition that specifies that the number of reports selected is data of a data item of a folder.

22. The program according to claim 11, wherein said definition accepting program controls the computer so as to further store, in said definition data storage means, a folder-data generating trigger definition that specifies timing for generating data of a data item of a folder to be applied to an application system;

further comprising a program for controlling the computer so as to start said report selecting program and folder data generating program at a timing that has

been specified in said folder-data generating trigger definition.

23. The program according to claim 11, wherein said definition accepting program controls the computer so as to further store, in said definition data storage means, a report input deadline definition that specifies an input deadline of a report to be stored in said report storage means;

further comprising a report requesting program for controlling the computer in such a manner that at a timing earlier than a timing specified in said folder-data generating trigger definition, it is determined whether a report, which possesses time data that falls within an interval specified by said report selecting definition, has been stored in said report storage means by a deadline specified by said report input deadline definition, and if it is determined that the report has not been stored in said report storage means by the deadline specified by said report input deadline definition, data representing the fact that this report is to be stored in said report storage means is output.

24. The program according to claim 11, wherein said definition accepting program controls the computer so as to further store, in said definition data storage means, a folder data-item definition, report selecting

definition and folder data generating definition with regard to each folder of a plurality of types.

25. A recording medium on which has been recorded a program set forth in any one of claims 11 to 24.

5 26. The program according to claim 17, wherein said report selecting program and said folder data generating program control a computer having:

definition data storage means for storing, with regard to a folder to be applied to an application

10 system, said folder data-item definition that specifies a data item included in the folder; said report selecting definition that specifies an interval of a report to be used in creating the folder, type of report to be used in creating the folder, a report data

15 item that is to be included in a report to be used in creating the folder, and a data value to be included in a report used in creating the folder; and said folder data generating definition that specifies how data of a data item of a folder is generated from data relating

20 to a report; and

report storage means for storing a report having time data, a report-type code and data of one or a plurality of report data items.

27. A recording medium on which the following programs

25 have been recorded:

a definition accepting program for controlling a
computer so as to accept, and store in definition data
storage means with regard to a folder to be applied to
an application system, a folder data-item definition
5   that specifies a data item contained in the folder, a
report selecting definition that specifies an interval
of a report to be used in creating a folder, type of
report to be used in creating a folder and a report
data item that is to be included in a report to be used
10   in creating a folder, and a folder data generating
definition that specifies how data of a data item of a
folder is generated from data relating to a report;

a report accepting program for controlling the
computer so as to accept, and store in report storage
15   means, a report having time data, a report-type code
and data of one or a plurality of report data items;

a report selecting program for controlling the
computer so as to select, from among reports stored in
said report storage means, a report, which is in line
20   with at least any one condition, from among a report in
line with a condition that time data falls within an
interval specified by the report selecting definition,
a report in line with a condition that the report
possesses a report-type code of a type specified by the
25   report selecting definition, and a report in line with

a condition that the report possesses data of a report

data item specified by the report selecting definition;

and

a folder data generating program for controlling

5   the computer based upon data relating to the selected

report so as to generate data of a data item of a

folder, which has been specified by the folder data-

item definition, in accordance with the folder data

generating definition.

10   28. A system for generating user-compatible business

application data, comprising:

definition data storage means for storing

definition data that includes, with regard to a folder

to be applied to an application system, a folder data-

15   item definition that specifies a data item contained in

the folder, a report selecting definition that

specifies an interval of a report to be used in

creating a folder, type of report to be used in

creating a folder and a report data item that is to be

20   included in a report to be used in creating a folder,

and a folder data generating definition that specifies

how data of a data item of a folder is generated from

data relating to a report;

report storage means for storing a report having

time data, a report-type code and data of one or a

plurality of report data items;

report selecting means for selecting, from among

5   reports stored in said report storage means, a report,

which is in line with at least any one condition, from

among a report in line with a condition that time data

falls within an interval specified by the report

selecting definition, a report in line with a condition

10   that the report possesses a report-type code of a type

specified by the report selecting definition, and a

report in line with a condition that the report

possesses data of a report data item specified by the

report selecting definition; and

15   folder data generating means for generating data

of a data item of a folder, which has been specified by

the folder data-item definition, in accordance with the

folder data generating definition based upon data

relating to the report by said report selecting means.

20   29. A method of generating user-compatible business

application data, comprising the steps of:

providing definition data storage means and report

storage means, said definition data storage means

storing, with regard to a folder to be applied to an

25   application system, definition data that includes a

folder data-item definition that specifies a data item

contained in the folder, a report selecting definition

that specifies an interval of a report to be used in

creating a folder, type of report to be used in

5   creating a folder and a report data item that is to be

included in a report to be used in creating a folder,

and a folder data generating definition that specifies

how data of a data item of a folder is generated from

data relating to a report; and said report storage

10   means storing a report having time data, a report-type

code and data of one or a plurality of report data

items;

        selecting, from among reports stored in said

report storage means, a report, which is in line with

15   at least any one condition, from among a report in line

with a condition that time data falls within an

interval specified by the report selecting definition,

a report in line with a condition that the report

possesses a report-type code of a type specified by the

20   report selecting definition, and a report in line with

a condition that the report possesses data of a report

data item specified by the report selecting definition;

and

        generating data of a data item of a folder, which

25   has been specified by the folder data-item definition,

in accordance with the folder data generating

definition, based upon data relating to the selected

report.